

# **BODYBUILDING & PHYSICALFITNESS is LIFE-LONG endeavor of specialized Strength and Specific Conditioning**

**Bodybuilding and physical fitness are indeed lifelong endeavors that require specialized strength and specific conditioning.** Both disciplines demand a long-term commitment to structured training, adaptation, and progressive overload to achieve and maintain results.

## **Key Principles**

- **Specialized Strength and Conditioning:**
  - **Bodybuilding** focuses on muscle hypertrophy (growth) and aesthetics, requiring targeted resistance training and precise nutrition to maximize muscle size while minimizing body fat. This involves cycles of bulking and cutting, and a high degree of discipline and planning<sup>[1][2]</sup>.
  - **Physical fitness** in a broader sense encompasses not only muscular strength but also cardiovascular endurance and flexibility, forming a holistic approach to health and performance<sup>[2]</sup>.
  - **Strength and conditioning** for athletes or general fitness is based on principles like specificity (training adaptations are specific to the muscles and energy systems used) and overload (continually increasing demands to stimulate adaptation)<sup>[3][4]</sup>.
- **Lifelong Progression and Adaptation:**
  - The body adapts to repeated stress, so continuous improvement requires progressively increasing resistance, changing routines, and incorporating new challenges (progressive overload)<sup>[2][3]</sup>.
  - Avoiding plateaus and maintaining progress over a lifetime means regularly adjusting training variables such as exercise selection, intensity, volume, and rest periods<sup>[2]</sup>.
- **Discipline and Lifestyle:**

- o **Bodybuilding at a high level** is described as a "way of life," involving rigorous training schedules, strict dietary control, and attention to recovery and posing<sup>[2]</sup>.
- o **Physical fitness** for life also requires a sustained commitment, as benefits like reduced injury risk, improved daily function, and enhanced mental clarity depend on ongoing activity and adaptation<sup>[2]</sup>.

### **Summary Table: Bodybuilding vs. General Physical Fitness**

Aspect	Bodybuilding	General Physical Fitness
Primary Goal	Muscle size, aesthetics	Holistic health, functionality
Training Focus	Hypertrophy, isolation exercises	Strength, endurance, flexibility
Conditioning	Secondary (cardio for fat loss)	Primary (cardio, flexibility, etc.)
Nutrition	Highly specialized, cyclical	Balanced, sustainable
Lifelong Adaptation	Essential for progress	Essential for health
Discipline Required	Extreme (competitive level)	Consistent, but more flexible

**In conclusion, both bodybuilding and physical fitness are lifelong pursuits that demand specialized strength and specific conditioning strategies.** Success in either field relies on progressive training, adaptation, and a disciplined approach to exercise and lifestyle<sup>[1][2][3]</sup>.

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## **How does my focus on muscle mass influence my training choices**

What are the key differences in diet between strength and bodybuilding

How can I balance strength development with muscle hypertrophy goals

Why is full range of motion more important for my bodybuilding progress

What training methods should I prioritize to become a complete athlete

### **1. How does my focus on muscle mass influence my training choices?**

Focusing on **muscle mass** (hypertrophy) means

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## Which training techniques will help me develop both strength and muscular size

To develop **both strength and muscular size (hypertrophy)**, prioritize the following training techniques:

- **Compound, Multi-Joint Exercises:**

Focus on movements like squats, deadlifts, bench presses, pullups, rows, and overhead presses. These exercises engage multiple muscle groups, allowing you to lift heavier weights and stimulate both strength and muscle growth<sup>[5][6]</sup>.

- **Heavy, Low-Rep Sets Combined with Moderate, High-Rep Sets:**

Start your workout with heavy sets (3-5 reps) to build strength, then follow with moderate to high-rep sets (8-12 reps) for hypertrophy. This approach lets you benefit from both strength and size adaptations in a single session<sup>[6]</sup>.

- **Eccentric Training:**

Emphasize the lowering (eccentric) phase of each lift by slowing it down. Eccentric work increases muscle stress, promoting greater muscle growth while also contributing to strength gains<sup>[7]</sup>.

- **Progressive Overload:**

Continuously increase the weight, reps, or sets over time to challenge your muscles and stimulate adaptation for both size and strength<sup>[8]</sup>.

- **Full Range of Motion:**

Perform each exercise through its complete range of motion to maximize muscle fiber recruitment and joint health, which supports both hypertrophy and functional strength<sup>[5]</sup>.

- **Consistency and Recovery:**

Train all major muscle groups at least twice per week, and allow adequate recovery for optimal results<sup>[9]</sup>.

These combined methods will help you efficiently build strength and muscle size, creating a balanced and athletic physique.

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## How can I combine heavy lifting with multi-joint exercises for muscle growth

What are the best ways to incorporate eccentric training into my routine

How does training with low reps boost both strength and size

Why is exercise selection crucial for maximizing muscle recruitment

How can I balance controlled overload and full range motion for optimal gains

Here's how you can effectively combine heavy lifting with multi-joint exercises for muscle growth, incorporate eccentric training, and optimize your routine for both strength and hypertrophy:

### Combining Heavy Lifting with Multi-Joint Exercises for Muscle Growth

- **Prioritize Compound Movements:** Start your workouts with heavy, multi-joint (compound) exercises such as squats, deadlifts, bench presses, overhead presses, and rows. These lifts engage multiple muscle groups, allow you to move heavier weights, and stimulate the release of anabolic hormones, all of which are crucial for both strength and muscle hypertrophy<sup>[10][11][12]</sup>.
- **Use Progressive Overload:** Gradually increase the weight, reps, or sets over time to continually challenge your muscles and drive adaptation<sup>[10][12]</sup>.
- **Balance with Isolation Work:** After compound lifts, include isolation exercises to target specific muscles and refine definition, ensuring balanced development<sup>[10][13]</sup>.

### Best Ways to Incorporate Eccentric Training

- **Slow the Lowering Phase:** During compound lifts, deliberately slow down the eccentric (lowering) portion of the movement (e.g., take 3-4 seconds to lower the bar in a bench press or squat).
- **Eccentric-Only Sets:** Occasionally use heavier weights (above your usual max) with a spotter, focusing solely on the lowering phase.

- **Tempo Training:** Integrate specific tempo prescriptions (e.g., 3-0-1, where you lower for 3 seconds, no pause, and lift in 1 second) to increase time under tension and stimulate muscle growth.

### How Low-Rep Training Boosts Both Strength and Size

- **Strength Gains:** Low-rep (3-6 reps) sets with heavier weights primarily enhance neural adaptations, increasing your ability to lift more weight<sup>[10][12]</sup>.
- **Muscle Size:** Combining low-rep, heavy sets with moderate-rep (8-12 reps) sets maximizes mechanical tension and muscle fiber recruitment, driving hypertrophy while building strength<sup>[10][12]</sup>.
- **Hormonal Response:** Heavy compound lifts also boost anabolic hormone production, further supporting muscle growth<sup>[10][12]</sup>.

### Why Exercise Selection is Crucial for Maximizing Muscle Recruitment

- **Multi-Joint Exercises:** Compound lifts recruit the greatest number of muscle fibers by involving several joints and muscle groups simultaneously, leading to more efficient muscle growth and strength gains<sup>[10][11][12]</sup>.
- **Targeted Development:** Strategic selection of both compound and isolation exercises ensures all major muscle groups are adequately trained and balanced<sup>[10][13]</sup>.

### Balancing Controlled Overload and Full Range of Motion for Optimal Gains

- **Controlled Overload:** Always prioritize proper form and controlled movement, especially as you increase weight, to maximize muscle tension and minimize injury risk<sup>[10][12]</sup>.
- **Full Range of Motion:** Perform each exercise through its complete range to recruit the most muscle fibers, improve joint health, and stimulate maximum hypertrophy<sup>[12]</sup>.
- **Combine Both:** Use a weight that allows you to maintain strict technique and full range of motion, adjusting load as needed to avoid sacrificing either quality.

### Summary Table: Key Training Principles for Strength and Size

Principle	Application Example	Benefit
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Heavy, Multi-Joint Lifts	Squats, Deadlifts, Bench Press	Maximal strength & muscle growth
Eccentric Emphasis	Slow lowering in lifts, tempo training	Increased muscle damage & hypertrophy
Low-Rep Training	3-6 reps with heavy weight	Neural strength adaptations
Full Range of Motion	Deep squats, full extension in presses	Greater muscle recruitment
Exercise Selection	Compound + isolation exercises	Comprehensive muscle development
Progressive Overload	Gradually increase weight/reps	Continuous gains

By integrating these methods, you'll maximize both strength and hypertrophy, creating a balanced, powerful, and muscular physique<sup>[10][11][12]</sup>.

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## How do multi-joint exercises compare to single-joint for muscle growth

What are the key benefits of incorporating compound lifts into my routine

How does progressive overload enhance hypertrophy with multi-joint moves

Why is exercise variety important for balanced muscle development

How can I optimize exercise selection for maximum muscle recruitment

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**Multi-joint (compound) exercises and single-joint (isolation) exercises each play distinct roles in muscle growth and overall development. Here's how they compare and how to optimize your training:**

### Multi-Joint vs. Single-Joint Exercises for Muscle Growth

Aspect	Multi-Joint (Compound) Exercises	Single-Joint (Isolation) Exercises
Muscles Worked	Multiple muscle groups/joints	One primary muscle group/joint

Strength Gains	Superior due to heavier loads and synergy	Limited, focused on one muscle
Hypertrophy	Excellent for overall muscle mass	Effective for targeted hypertrophy
Functional Benefits	High—mimic real-life movements	Low—less functional carryover
Hormonal Response	Greater anabolic hormone release	Minimal hormonal impact
Time Efficiency	High—train more muscles per movement	Lower—requires more exercises for coverage
Addressing Imbalances	Less targeted	Ideal for correcting weak points

**Both compound and isolation exercises can promote muscle hypertrophy, but compound lifts are generally more efficient for building overall muscle mass and strength, while isolation moves are ideal for targeting specific muscles and correcting imbalances<sup>[14][15][16][17]</sup>.**

## Key Benefits of Incorporating Compound Lifts

- **Maximize Muscle Recruitment:** Compound lifts like squats, deadlifts, and bench presses engage multiple muscle groups, leading to greater overall muscle activation and growth<sup>[14][15][17]</sup>.
- **Functional Strength:** These exercises improve coordination, flexibility, and strength that translates to daily activities and sports<sup>[15][18]</sup>.
- **Efficient Workouts:** You can train more muscles in less time, making your sessions more productive<sup>[15][17]</sup>.
- **Greater Hormonal Response:** Compound lifts stimulate more anabolic hormones (like testosterone and growth hormone), which support muscle growth<sup>[14]</sup>.

## Progressive Overload and Hypertrophy with Multi-Joint Moves

- **Progressive overload**—gradually increasing weight, reps, or sets—forces your muscles to adapt, leading to both strength and size gains. Compound lifts allow you to use heavier loads, amplifying the hypertrophic stimulus<sup>[14][15]</sup>.
- This method is especially effective with multi-joint exercises, as they can be safely and progressively loaded over time<sup>[14][15]</sup>.

## Importance of Exercise Variety for Balanced Muscle Development

- **Variety ensures all muscle groups are trained adequately**, preventing imbalances and overuse injuries<sup>[15][17]</sup>.
- Combining compound and isolation exercises lets you address both overall mass and specific weak points, leading to a more balanced, aesthetic physique<sup>[16][17]</sup>.

## Optimizing Exercise Selection for Maximum Muscle Recruitment

- **Prioritize compound exercises** to cover large muscle groups and foundational strength<sup>[14][15][17]</sup>.
- **Supplement with isolation exercises** to target lagging or smaller muscles, correct imbalances, and refine muscle detail<sup>[15][16][17]</sup>.
- **Adjust based on your goals:** For overall mass and functional strength, compound lifts should dominate your routine. For specific muscle growth or symmetry, add isolation work as needed<sup>[14][15][16]</sup>.

### In summary:

To maximize muscle growth and balanced development, base your routine on compound lifts for overall mass and strength, and use isolation exercises strategically for targeted hypertrophy and correcting imbalances. Employ progressive overload and maintain exercise variety for optimal, lifelong results in bodybuilding and physical fitness<sup>[14][15][16][17]</sup>.

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## NINJUTSU FULL CURRICULUM FOR EACH BELT LEVEL DRILLS ,SETS,AND TECHNIQUES

A **full Ninjutsu curriculum by belt level** covers a structured progression of drills, sets, and techniques, integrating unarmed skills, weaponry, body movement, and tactical principles. While specific requirements may vary by school or lineage, the following outline synthesizes core elements from established Ninjutsu systems<sup>[19][20][21][22]</sup>:

### White Belt (9th Kyu, Kukyu)

- **Basics:** Stances, footwork, basic punches and kicks, ukemi (rolling and breakfalls)
- **Drills:** Basic striking and blocking combinations
- **Techniques:** Introduction to Taihenjutsu (body movement), simple escapes

## **Yellow Belt (8th Kyu, Hachikyu)**

- **Striking:** 16 secret fists (basic striking methods)
- **Kata:** Introduction to San Shin No Kata (Five Element Forms)
- **Drills:** Basic Koshi Kihon Sanpo (hip fundamentals), Torite Goho Gata (grappling)
- **Weapon:** Hanbo (half-staff) basics

## **Green Belt (7th Kyu, Nanankyu)**

- **Movement:** Leaping skills, flips, handsprings
- **Drills:** Advanced Koshi Sanpo, Torite Goho Gata
- **Weapon:** Katana (sword) basics

## **Blue Belt (6th Kyu, Rokkyu)**

- **Striking:** Dakentaijutsu (advanced striking)
- **Footwork:** Ashi Sabaki (evasive movement)
- **Techniques:** Gyaku Waza (joint reversals), Nage Waza (throws)
- **Weapon:** Rokushaku Bo (long staff)

## **Purple Belt (5th Kyu, Gokkyu)**

- **Body Skills:** Advanced Taihenjutsu, advanced San Shin practice
- **Techniques:** Nage Waza (throws), Kyusho (pressure points)
- **Weapons:** Knife, Shoto (short sword)

## **Red Belt (4th Kyu, Yonkyu)**

- **Body Skills:** Advanced Taihenjutsu, Kihon Happo (fundamental techniques)
- **Techniques:** Throws, handling multiple attackers, pressure points
- **Weapon:** Kusari Fundo (chain weapon)

## **Brown Belt (3rd-1st Kyu, Sankyu-Ikkyu)**

- **Advanced Kata:** San Shin No Kata, advanced Ashi Sabaki
- **Techniques:** Choking, advanced throws, pressure points
- **Weapons:** Kunai, Tessen (iron fan), Jutte, Shuriken, Naginata, Yari, Shuko, Kyoketsu Shoge (rope and sickle)
- **Drills:** Multiple attacker scenarios, advanced off-balancing (Kuzushi)

## **Black Belt (Shodan and above)**

- **Advanced Waza:** Kossujutsu, Gyokko Ryu, Kukishinden Ryu Hanbojutsu, Shinden Fudo Ryu Dakentaijutsu
- **Principles:** Jo Ryaku no maki, Churaku no maki, Geryaku/Mutodori gedan
- **Weapons:** Rokushakubo, Hanbo, Katana, Shuriken, and more at advanced levels
- **Drills:** Integration of all previous skills, teaching, and tactical application<sup>[22][23]</sup>

## **General Notes**

- **Each belt level** typically includes a set of required techniques, kata, and weapon forms, with testing on both solo and partner drills.
- **Progression** involves increasing complexity, tactical understanding, and integration of weapons and unarmed skills.
- **Testing** often requires demonstration of proficiency in all previous material, not just new techniques<sup>[20][21][24][25]</sup>.

This curriculum reflects the core structure found in leading Ninjutsu organizations and is designed as a lifelong journey of specialized strength, conditioning, and martial skill development.

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## **CrossFit and TAI'CHI balanced curriculum and syllabus**

A **balanced CrossFit and Tai Chi curriculum** can be designed to develop both physical fitness and mindful movement, blending high-intensity functional training with meditative, controlled practice. Below is a sample curriculum and syllabus structure for each discipline, followed by guidance on integrating them for holistic development.

## CrossFit Curriculum & Syllabus

### Class Structure:

- **Warm-Up:** Group dynamic mobility and movement prep (10-15 min)<sup>[26][27]</sup>.
- **Skill/Strength Segment:** Focus on a lift or gymnastic skill (10-20 min). Examples: squats, presses, deadlifts, pull-ups, handstands<sup>[28][27]</sup>.
- **MetCon (Metabolic Conditioning):** High-intensity workout combining weightlifting, gymnastics, and cardio (15-25 min)<sup>[26][28][27]</sup>.
- **Cool Down:** Mobility, stretching, and recovery (5-10 min)<sup>[27]</sup>.

### Weekly Programming:

- **Day 1:** Weightlifting focus (e.g., deadlifts, squats) + short MetCon
- **Day 2:** Gymnastics focus (e.g., pull-ups, push-ups, handstands) + interval cardio
- **Day 3:** Mixed modality MetCon (triplet: cardio, gymnastics, weightlifting)<sup>[28]</sup>
- **Day 4:** Active recovery or skill work
- **Day 5:** Team workout or longer endurance piece<sup>[26]</sup>
- **Day 6:** High-skill or benchmark workout
- **Day 7:** Rest or mobility

### Key Elements:

- **Metabolic Conditioning:** Running, rowing, cycling, jump rope
- **Weightlifting:** Deadlifts, cleans, presses, snatch, kettlebell swings
- **Gymnastics:** Pull-ups, push-ups, dips, muscle-ups, rope climbs, core work<sup>[28]</sup>

## Tai Chi Curriculum & Syllabus

### Class Structure:

- **Warm-Up:** Gentle joint rotations, breathing exercises (5-10 min)

- **Fundamental Drills:** Stance work, weight shifting, basic stepping (10-15 min)
- **Form Practice:** Learning and refining Tai Chi forms (20-30 min)
- **Push Hands/Sensitivity Drills:** Partner work for balance and sensitivity (10-15 min)
- **Cool Down:** Standing meditation, Qigong, relaxation (5-10 min)

### **Progression:**

- **Beginner:** Basic stances, simple forms (e.g., Yang 8 or 24 form), basic breathing
- **Intermediate:** Full forms, introduction to push hands, deeper focus on flow and transitions
- **Advanced:** Advanced forms, martial applications, weapon forms, advanced push hands

### **Key Elements:**

- **Mindful Movement:** Slow, controlled motions for balance and relaxation
- **Breathwork:** Coordinating breath with movement
- **Internal Awareness:** Focus on posture, alignment, and internal energy flow

## **Integrating CrossFit & Tai Chi for Balance**

### **Weekly Sample Syllabus:**

Day	Morning (CrossFit)	Evening (Tai Chi)
1	Weightlifting + MetCon	Basic stances, short form
2	Gymnastics + Cardio	Form practice, breathwork
3	Mixed MetCon	Push hands, balance drills
4	Active recovery/mobility	Qigong, meditation
5	Team workout/endurance	Full form, flow transitions
6	Skill work or benchmark	Advanced form, applications
7	Rest	Rest or gentle Tai Chi

### **Benefits of the Combined Approach:**

- **CrossFit** builds strength, power, endurance, and resilience through high-intensity, functional movements.
- **Tai Chi** enhances balance, flexibility, joint health, and mental focus through mindful, low-impact movement.
- **Together**, they promote lifelong physical fitness, injury prevention, stress reduction, and overall well-being.

### **Summary:**

A balanced curriculum alternates high-intensity CrossFit sessions with restorative Tai Chi practice, ensuring comprehensive development of both body and mind. This approach supports specialized strength, conditioning, and longevity in physical fitness<sup>[26][28][27]</sup>.

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## **Tai 'chi Curriculum, exercises&drills**

A comprehensive **Tai Chi curriculum** is structured to develop foundational skills, internal principles, and advanced techniques through progressive phases. Below is an expert summary of typical curriculum elements, exercises, and drills, drawing on established Chen, Yang, and Wu style programs<sup>[29][30][31][32]</sup>.

### **Tai Chi Curriculum: Phases & Key Components**

#### **1. Fundamentals**

- **Principles:** Yin-yang balance, posture alignment, relaxation, natural breathing<sup>[29][31]</sup>.
- **Basic Movements:** Opening/closing, weight shifting, coordinated stepping, torso rotation<sup>[29][30]</sup>.
- **Drills:**
  - Standing meditation (Zhan Zhuang)
  - Joint rotations (neck, shoulders, hips, knees, ankles)
  - Simple stepping and shifting drills

#### **2. Posture & Strength**

- **Standing Qigong:** Mountain posture for stability and awareness<sup>[29]</sup>.
- **Core Drills:**
  - “Awaken the Legs” (gentle leg strengthening)
  - “Standing and Shifting” (weight transfer, rooting)
- **Breathwork:** Coordinating breath with movement<sup>[29][31]</sup>.

### 3. Balanced Movement & Silk Reeling

- **Silk Reeling (Chan Si Gong):** Spiraling, coiling movements unique to Chen style<sup>[29]</sup>.
- **Integrated Movement:**
  - Lower and upper body coordination
  - Slow, continuous transitions
- **Drills:**
  - Silk reeling circles (single and double hand)
  - Shifting and stepping with arm spirals

### 4. Forms Practice

- **Short Forms:** 19 Form, 21 Form, or Yang 24 Form for beginners<sup>[29][30]</sup>.
- **Long Forms:** Wu 64, Yang 108, or Chen Old Frame for advanced students<sup>[30]</sup>.
- **Solo Practice:** Repetition of forms focusing on posture, relaxation, and flow<sup>[30][31]</sup>.
- **Partner Work:**
  - Application of postures
  - Sensitivity to structure and force

### 5. Push Hands (Tui Shou)

- **Purpose:** Develop sensitivity, yielding, and neutralizing force<sup>[31][33][32]</sup>.
- **Drills:**
  - Fixed step and moving step push hands
  - Listening (Ting Jin) and following (Sui Jin) skills

- o Yielding and counteracting

## 6. Martial Applications & Sparring (Advanced)

- **Applications:** Understanding self-defense uses for each posture<sup>[33]</sup>.
- **Sparring:** Transitioning from push hands to controlled sparring for martial development<sup>[31][33]</sup>.

## 7. Weapons (Optional/Advanced)

- **Forms:** Sword, broadsword, staff, spear, fan<sup>[30][32]</sup>.
- **Drills:** Solo and partner weapon routines

### Typical Class Structure

- **Warm-Up:** Joint rotations, breathing exercises, standing meditation<sup>[29][34]</sup>.
- **Fundamentals:** Basic movements, posture drills, silk reeling<sup>[29][30]</sup>.
- **Form Practice:** Step-by-step instruction, repetition, corrections<sup>[29][30][34]</sup>.
- **Push Hands/Partner Drills:** Sensitivity, yielding, neutralization<sup>[31][33][32]</sup>.
- **Cool Down:** Qigong, relaxation, meditation<sup>[29][30]</sup>.

### Example Exercises & Drills

- **Standing Meditation (Zhan Zhuang)**
- **Silk Reeling Drills** (single/double hand circles)
- **Step-and-Push** (coordinating steps with arm movements)
- **Cloud Hands** (wave-like arm and body movement)
- **Grasp the Bird's Tail** (classic Yang-style sequence)
- **Push Hands** (fixed/moving step, single/double hand)
- **Sword/Staff Basic Cuts and Patterns** (for advanced students)

**Progression** in Tai Chi is marked by moving from external form (physical movement) to internal principles (energy, intention, relaxation), and finally to martial application and spontaneous expression<sup>[31]</sup>. The curriculum is adaptable for health, meditation, or martial focus, and can be tailored to individual goals<sup>[30][31]</sup>.

“There is a tangible sequence to understand and truly follow to make progress in Tai Chi. Five levels have been laid out for us that can be applied to any finite or global pursuit.”<sup>[31]</sup>

### **In summary:**

A Tai Chi curriculum blends foundational drills, form practice, partner sensitivity, and (optionally) martial and weapon skills, progressing from basic movement to advanced internal and external integration<sup>[29][30][31][33][32]</sup>.

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